

Last year, while Congress worked to reauthorize NAWCA, a debate emerged concerning the role of the North American Wetlands Conservation Council and its membership. In discussions and correspondence with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and stakeholder groups, I came away with a clear message: everyone involves fully supports a growing NAWCA program. What was less clear was finding an appropriate means to foster continued non-governmental participation in, and contributions to, the quantitative and qualitative successes of the program.

The Fish and Wildlife Service informed me that it sought to ensure more diversity on the Council. For this reason, it indicated that the Secretary would not reappoint two organizations that have contributed mightily to NAWCA's success. Ultimately, one group chose to leave the Council and another chose to continue to seek reappointment, which I understand has been recently completed. I am hoping to receive written confirmation of this reappointment very shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the most effective means to diversify and expand the effectiveness of the Council is to provide the Secretary with new authority to appoint two additional Council members under Sec. 4(a)(1)(D) of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. These appointments would give the Service the ability to include additional charitable and non-profit organizations from among many which actively participate in the development of NAWCA projects. Quite simply, this simple bill would allow a highly successful law to expand its reach, and I hope for its swift passage this year.

EAST TIMOR

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I am offering legislation to address the troubling events that have been unfolding recently in East Timor. On August 30, 1999, the people of East Timor voted by 78 percent for independence from Indonesia, which invaded the former Portuguese colony in 1975. Since the election, which drew more than 98 percent of the territory's registered voters, militia groups backed by sections of the Indonesian military and police have engaged in widespread killings, arsons, and forced evacuations against the citizens of East Timor. These groups have forcibly transported tens of thousands of East Timor residents across the Indonesian border and intimidated foreign journalists, aid workers and election advisers into fleeing the territory.

On Tuesday, Indonesia declared martial law in the territory, but the declaration has made little difference. Relief agencies have estimated that up to 200,000 people in East Timor have fled to refugee camps in other parts of Indonesia, while thousands more have sought refuge wherever they could. Among those who fled was Roman Catholic Bishop Ximenes Belo, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, who was forced to flee to Australia after his home was viciously burned to ground by militia members. Yesterday, The United Nations announced it will be withdrawing most of its representatives

in the East Timor province in order to protect the lives of these emissaries. In addition, many of the foreign journalists in East Timor have also decided that they must evacuate in order to protect their lives. This deteriorating situation is a very serious matter which we must address. This campaign of killing, arson and forced evacuation has been clearly orchestrated by elements of the Indonesian military in a brutal attempt to devastate East Timor. The response by the Indonesian security forces, which represent the Indonesian government, has been wholly inadequate and stunningly indifferent, as these security forces have done nothing to stop the violence committed by the militia forces.

The backlash against the citizens of East Timor is an indication of a serious leadership crisis in Indonesia. It is important that, at this critical juncture, the response from the United States is both forceful and meaningful. The legislation I am introducing today would direct the U.S. representative to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to oppose any new monetary assistance to Indonesia including any additional tranches under the 1998 IMF/G-7 package until such time as the President certifies that the crisis in East Timor has been resolved.

As a long-time supporter of U.S. participation in the International Monetary Fund and the 1998 IMF/G-7 response to the Asian economic crisis, I do not believe the U.S. can continue to support assistance to a regime which has exhibited, at best, indifference to armed militia violence and slaughter following the East Timor plebiscite, and at worst complicity in the organized terror. However, I believe that this action is necessary to ensure that the Indonesian government take all necessary action to end this terror against East Timor's citizens. My legislation would apply not only to any future loans from the IMF and World Bank to Indonesia, but it would also require that the United States oppose additional extensions under existing loans. As a result, the United States representative to the IMF would oppose the next \$2 billion tranche of the existing \$12 billion IMF loan facility. My legislation would also require the United States Executive Director at the IMF to veto any future loans to Indonesia until the President certifies that the crisis in East Timor has been resolved.

It is also my understanding the IMF was scheduled to send a mission to Indonesia this week, but that it has been delayed in order to protect the safety of IMF employees. While IMF's concern for its employees safety is laudable, more must be done by way of response to this situation. I believe that we must discontinue these loans in order to convince the Indonesian government that its campaign of terror against the East Timorese will have dire consequences. My legislation would permit the IMF to restart these loans once the President of the United States has certified that the violence and human rights violations in East Timor have ended.

My legislation would also require our representatives to the World Bank to oppose any current or future loans to Indonesia. Last year, as part of the 1998 IMF/G-7 financial assistance package, the World Bank pledged to provide \$5.9 billion in aid to Indonesia. The World Bank is scheduled to release \$475 million of the \$1.375 billion outstanding loans during this fourth quarter of this year. My legislation

would require the U.S. to oppose this disbursement until the Indonesia government has acted to peacefully resolve the situation in East Timor.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the United States helped to negotiate a \$49 billion restructuring program for Indonesia last year. I was very supportive of this package and believe that we should assist foreign countries on their paths of economic recovery. However, recent actions in Indonesia have forced me to reconsider my support for these financial assistance loans. I believe that it is highly regrettable that we must take this action, but the government of Indonesia has brought this upon themselves.

Let me also say that while most other nations in the region have experienced an economic rebound due in no small part to the IMF/G-7 participation, Indonesia has continued to lag behind as a result of its weak government structure. I do not believe a suspension of the IMF/G-7 package would pose the same contagious economic elements we experienced in January 1998, nor do I believe the U.S. should continue to support such a regime until such time as it can guarantee the safety of its own people.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to support the efforts of the United States to end the violence and human rights abuses occurring in East Timor.

A SALUTE TO MARILYN BERGMAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, as the Board of Directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) prepares to meet here in Washington, DC, I wish to call to the attention of all Members of Congress the many accomplishments of its President and Chairman of the Board, Marilyn Bergman.

ASCAP, the organization Ms. Bergman now leads, is a membership association of over 80,000 composers, songwriters, lyricists and music publishers. ASCAP's function is to protect the rights of its members by licensing and paying royalties for the public performances of their copyrighted works.

Marilyn Bergman is the first woman to be elected to ASCAP's Board of Directors. She brings to the leadership of ASCAP the unique experience of a creator, being herself an award-winning lyricist along with her husband, Alan Bergman. Among her many awards and honors, she has received three Academy Awards, three Emmy Awards, two Grammy Awards and one Cable Ace Award.

In collaboration with her husband, Alan, Marilyn won Oscars in 1968, 1973 and 1984 for the songs, "The Windmills of Your Mind," "The Way We Were," and for the score for Yentl. Since their first Oscar nomination in 1968, they have been nominated sixteen times—for such songs as "It Might Be You" from Tootsie, "How Do You Keep The Music Playing?" from Best Friends, "Papa, Can You Hear Me?" and "The Way He Makes Me Feel" from Yentl and "What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life?" from The Happy Ending. In 1996 they were nominated for both a

Golden Globe and an Academy Award for their song "Moonlight," performed by Sting, from Sydney Pollack film, *Sabrina*.

"The Windmills of Your Mind" and "The Way We Were" also received Golden Globe awards and "The Way We Were" earned two Grammys. The three Emmys are for "Sybil," "Queen of the Stardust Ballroom" and "Ordinary Miracles." Among their principal collaborators are Michel Legrand, Marvin Hamlisch, Dave Grusin, Henry Mancini, Johnny Mandel, John Williams, Quincy Jones and James Newton Howard.

Marilyn was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1980, and was a recipient of the Crystal Award from Women in Film in 1986. In 1995 she received a National Academy of Songwriters Lifetime Achievement Award. In 1996 Marilyn received the first Fiorello Lifetime Achievement Award from New York's LaGuardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts. In 1997, the Songwriters Hall of Fame honored Marilyn with their Johnny Mercer Award.

Marilyn is a member of the Executive Committee of the Music Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, a member of the National Academy of Songwriters and the Nashville Songwriters Association. Marilyn was the only creator to serve on the Advisory Council to the National Information Infrastructure (NII). She is a founder of the Hollywood Women's Political Committee and serves on the Board of Directors of the Streisand Foundation.

Ms. Bergman served two terms (1994–1998) in a leadership capacity on behalf of songwriters on the world stage as President of CISAC, the International Confederation of Performing Right Societies. In 1996 she received France's highest cultural honor, Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters medal. In June of this year, she received a cultural Medal of Honor from SGAE, the Spanish performing rights organization.

Ms. Bergman was a music major at New York's High School of Music and Art, going on to study Psychology and English at New York University. She has received Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Berklee College of Music in Boston Trinity College in Hartford, Conn.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DANVILLE, ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Danville, Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

As a former director of the Chamber of Commerce in Pontiac, Illinois, I have a personal connection to the great contribution that Chambers of Commerce make in communities of all sizes throughout our country. As the elected representative for Vermilion county, I have personally worked with and witnessed the Danville Chamber's commitment to the community, both through civic involvement and the cultivation of business opportunities.

The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce was founded on March 22, 1899 and has been the cornerstone of the greater Danville

business community ever since—and their work is clearly evident. During this past recess period I was in Danville, and I witnessed first hand the recent improvements in the downtown area. New small businesses are opening and there is a new sense of hope and opportunity as the downtown area undergoes a revitalization. This is, in large part, a result of the work undertaken by the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce.

But Mr. Speaker, their efforts go far beyond cultivating new businesses. The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce is building a sturdy foundation for the next century. Through their "Leadership Danville" initiative, the Chamber successfully nurtures and equips today's business employees to become tomorrow's area leaders.

So on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary, I offer my sincerest thanks and appreciation to the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce. And as we enter the next millennium, I also offer my best wishes for their continued success and good deeds as they enter their second century of service to Central Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO HARTFORD ARCHBISHOP DANIEL A. CRONIN

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I bring to the attention of the American public and the United States House of Representatives an upcoming celebration in Connecticut's Fifth Congressional District that commemorates the 31st anniversary of the consecration as a Bishop of now Hartford Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin. This celebration will be held during Sunday mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Waterbury, Connecticut on Sunday September 12, 1999.

Archbishop Cronin was born in Newton, Massachusetts on November 14, 1927. Since that time, he has dedicated his life to religious service around the World. He attended the St. John Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts and the North American College in Rome, Italy before being ordained a priest on December 20, 1952 in Rome. Archbishop Cronin later received a Licentiate and a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Gregorian University also in Rome.

The Archbishop has also served as Attache to the Apostolic Internunciature in Ethiopia and to the Secretariat of State in Vatican City in 1957 and 1961 respectively. In 1962, he was named Papal Chamberlain and given the title of Monsignor. By 1968, Archbishop Cronin had returned to the United States and was named Titular Bishop of Egnatia and Auxiliary Bishop of Boston. On September 12, 1968, he was consecrated Bishop at the Holy Cross Cathedral in Boston, Massachusetts.

On October 30, 1970, the Archbishop was named the fifth Bishop of the Fall River Diocese in Massachusetts. Shortly thereafter, Archbishop Cronin was installed at St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, also in Fall River. In 1991, 23 years after first being consecrated a Bishop, he was named the eleventh Bishop and the third Archbishop of the Hartford Archdiocese in Connecticut. In 1992, he received the Pallium from Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

Mr. Speaker, Archbishop Daniel Cronin epitomizes the dedication and moral example we all strive to emulate. He has been a source of strength to individuals and communities throughout his life in religious service. He is a beacon for us all as we go forward into the challenges of the future.

On behalf of the Fifth Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I express deep appreciation to Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin for his dedication and steadfast service to all those he has touched throughout his vocation, and wish him many more years of exemplary service and leadership.

PRIME ACT

HON. BILL MCCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize my support for funding for the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs, the PRIME Act, H.R. 413, and my hope that funding will be made available for this worthy bill. The PRIME Act provides money for training and technical assistance for low-income entrepreneurs, complementing the Small Business Administrations' Microloan program, which provides loan capital and assistance in accessing capital.

This spring the Banking Committee held hearings on the PRIME Act and heard first hand from microentrepreneurs, microenterprise researchers, and representatives of community based microenterprise organizations. Their message was clear. Microenterprise development is an effective tool for economic development and poverty alleviation. Training is absolutely critical to the sustainability and success of microenterprises owned and operated by very low-income entrepreneurs. Better yet, providing motivated individuals with business training is akin to teaching someone how to fish, instead of giving them fish. With a little education and training, very low-income microentrepreneurs can build and sustain their businesses, and in doing so, contribute to the economic life of a family, community, and ultimately our nation as a whole.

I am convinced that microenterprise development has an important role to play in the diversification of our economic base as well as in the advancement of our working-poor population. But I also recognize that microenterprise development requires a modest public investment—particularly in the area of training and technical assistance for low-income entrepreneurs. I believe it is a prudent and wise investment.

The PRIME Act, H.R. 413 has passed through both the Banking Committee and the Small Business Committee with enormous support, and was able to garner 110 cosponsors before passing out of Committee. Clearly, there is a strong desire within Congress to see H.R. 413 made into law this year. As a member of the Banking Committee, and a cosponsor, I will work to see that this happens, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in this effort.